

August 5, 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell  
Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy  
Commissioner Michael J. Copps  
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin  
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein  
Federal Communications Commission  
455 – 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to express my strong support for SBC's application to compete for long distance customers in Ohio. I firmly believe that the citizens of Ohio will receive better overall service through the addition of another choice in long distance companies. I am pleased to support their application.

Throughout my career as a public servant, I have taken many steps to protect the interests of my constituents. In my current position as Ohio Attorney General, consumer protection has been at the forefront of my Office's efforts to better the daily lives of the citizens of this great state. Providing citizens with access to a greater number of long distance service companies will further these efforts. With an increase in choice comes greater competition between companies. This competition, in turn, results in a better product at a more favorable cost to our citizens. Offering the people of Ohio another option when choosing a long distance company is directly in line with my administration's policy of enhancing their overall experience as consumers.

I urge the FCC to approve SBC's application to provide long distance service to the people of Ohio. I believe that approval is in the best interest of the public, and I look forward to Ohioans having yet another option when selecting a long distance telephone company. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Very truly yours,

JIM PETRO  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

JMP:jf